(ग) बहुत सी निजी कम्पनियां रक्षा उपस्कर के लिए प्रणालियों तथा उप-प्रणालियों के निर्माण में शामिल हैं।

(घ) और (ङ) ऐसे प्रयोजनों के लिए कोई निधियां विशिष्ट रूप से नियत नहीं की गई हैं।

Non-availability of items at CSD for O.Rs.

3844. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that certain items like corn flakes, refined groundnut oil, cosmetics and certain branded liquor and beer are generally not available in Other Ranks' counter of CSD canteen, AF Station, New Delhi while these items are always available for officers; and

(b) whether Government will take action to see that the soldiers of the Defence Services are not treated this way due to misuse of authority by some officers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No Sir. All these items are available at all the counters irrespective of whether the counter is for officers or for Other Ranks. All personnel have access to all available goods and no discrimination is made for sale of CSD items.

(b) No case of misuse of authority has been reported.

Self service counters for O.Rs.

3845. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that while officers can get items not available in officers' counter from Other Ranks' counter of CSD canteen, Air Force Station, New Delhi, non-commissioned personnel and JCOs cannot do this vice-versa;

(b) whether Government will direct that all CSD canteens in the country should have common stock of all items for both officers, and other ranks; and

(c) whether Government would order that in CSD canteens where officers are provided self service counters, the other ranks should also be provided self service counters?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No Sir. All items available in the canteen are sold to all customers irrespective of rank on 'first come first served' basis.

(b) It has been the constant endeavour of CSD to improve the services provided at the CSD canteens. All items available are sold without any discrimination. All counters cater for and have common store for all ranks.

(c) Efforts are being made to provide self service facilities at the canteens which is dependent upon space, manpower and resources available.

Financial bunglings in CSD works

3846. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be peased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that financial bunglings of several lakhs of rupees in the renovation/ construction works of CSD, canteen, Air Force Station, New Delhi, have taken place; and

(b) whether Government would order an enquiry by CBI to unearth the bunglings and to bring the culprits to book?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Apprentices trained by HAL

3847. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of apprentices trained by Hindustan Aeronautics who

were not absorbed in the company's Nasik Unit;

(b) the reasons for their non-absorption in view of their specialised training in aeronautics;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from the unions; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) One hundred sixteen apprentices trained by Hindustan Aeronautics could not be absorbed in the company's Nasik Unit.

(b) Due to dwindling work-load, low order book position and the availability of surplus man-power, these apprentices trained by Nasik Unit of the HAL could not be absorbed.

(c) Yes, the Government have received representations from the unions from time to time.

(d) The representations have been replied to and the unions have been informed that the ex-trainees will be provided employment as and when suitable vacancies arise.

CAG's recommendations on inexperienced flying instructors

3848. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appearing in 'The Hindu' dated the 24th June, 1998, under the caption "IAF Instructors inexperienced, feels CAG"; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in pursuance of the CAG's recommendations in his latest report in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The flying instructors and senior flying supervisors posted to flying training establishments are carefully selected depending on their qualifications and experience. Before a pilot is posted as an instructor, he under-goes a rigorous 6 months course for flying instructional duties, followed up by upgradation of his category through written and flying examinations. In addition, constant checks are maintained to review the qualitative aspects of training.

Chinese assistance for developing Ghauri

3849. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China had provided technological assistance to Pakistan for development of its latest ballistic missile "Ghauri";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what has been the reaction of the Chinese Army Chief who recently visited India; and

(d) what is India's position so far as surface to surface missile are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Pakistan does not have technological base to indigenously develop on its own a missile of 1500 km range. Reports suggest that the missile technology has been procured by Pakistan from a third country. Chinese assistance to Pakistan's missile programme is well known.

(c) During the recent visit of General Fu Quanyou, Chief of the General Staff of PLA of China, he met the three Service Chiefs and also called on the Raksha Mantri and the Prime Minister. During the meetings with the RM and the PM, matters of mutual interest and concern were discussed in a friendly atmosphere.

(d) 'Prithvi', a surface-to-surface missile system, developed under Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) for Army is under production. Work on the Air Force and